

### PHAP18-00009

**Date:** April 2, 2018

Application Type: Certificate of Appropriateness

**Property Owner:** Aaron Means **Representative:** Aaron Means

Legal Description: 83 Government Hill 15 & 16 & E. 15.00 ft. of 14 (10725 sq. ft.), City of El

Paso, El Paso County, Texas

Historic District:Austin TerraceLocation:2201 Radford Street

Representative District: #2

**Existing Zoning:** R-4/H (Residential/Historic)

*Year Built:* 1929

Historic Status: Non-Contributing

**Request:** Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to the front and side yard

and the construction of a circular driveway after-the-fact

 Application Filed:
 3/19/2018

 45 Day Expiration:
 5/3/2018

### ITEM #1



#### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

The applicant seeks approval for:

Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to the front and side yard and the construction of a circular driveway after-the-fact

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The Historic Preservation Office recommends APPROVAL WITH A MODIFICATION of the proposed scope of work based on the following recommendations:

The Design Guidelines for El Paso's Historic Districts, Sites, and Properties recommend the following:

- Introduce new driveways and walkways (when there are none) that are compatible with existing driveways and walkways in terms of width (maximum 12' wide), location, materials, and design. Double width and circular driveways are not appropriate and require approval from the Historic Landmark Commission.
- Construct new driveways and walkways in locations that require a minimum of alteration to historic site features such as landscaping, retaining walls, curbs, and sidewalks. Usually driveways should lead directly to the rear of buildings and walkways should lead directly to the front steps of the house.
- Select appropriate materials for new driveways including concrete tracks (narrow strips) and brick. Conceal edging materials used for gravel driveways. Keep new driveway aprons and curb cuts to the minimum width possible.
- Parking areas in front yards are not appropriate. New parking areas should be designed to have a minimal effect on the neighborhood environment.
- Where additional parking is necessary it should be located to the rear of the property as well. It is against the city ordinance to park in the parkway.
- Most of the older structures in El Paso have parking provided at the rear of the property in a garage or carport structure. Every effort should be taken to maintain the use of the original parking areas.
- Landscaping is an inherent part of a building's siting and design. Good landscaping reinforces the architectural qualities of a structure and its context. When new landscaping is planned, it should be designed to complement the structure and the streetscape.
- Grass and sod may be removed from front yards, side yards on a corner provided not more than 50% of the area is covered with gravel or other masonry. Grass and sod may be removed from parkways provided not more than 50% of the area is covered with gravel or other masonry that is made of impervious materials (brick pavers, gravel, and masonry pavers). The remaining 50% must be covered with trees and living plants that provide ground cover.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation recommend the following:

- New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property.
- Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
- The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

The modification is that the circular driveway be removed and replaced with landscaping.

## **AERIAL MAP**



# PROPOSED PLAN

